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Message Text

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46
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 A-01 NEA-07

/034 W
---------- 019667
P R 311209Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9837
AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP (DAVE OBEY, D - WISC.)
SUBJECT: CODEL OBEY

REF: A) ATHENS 5627; B)STATE 173471; C) ATHENS 69

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES VISIT OF CODEL OBEY AND AMBASSADOR KUBISCH WOULD BE PLEASED TO INVIET CODEL FOR COCKTAILS EVENING OF AUGUST 29, IF CODEL SCHEDULE PERMITS. WE UNDERSTAND FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT MINISTER BITSIOS EXPECTS TO BE ABSENT FROM ATHENS THAT DATE, AND WE ARE AWAITING RESPONSE ON REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT WITH PRIME MINISTER.

2. CODEL VISIT HERE FALLS JUST BEFORE AUG 30 OPENING CEREMONIES FOR 40TH THESSALONIKI INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR (TIF) ONLY MAJOR TRADE SHOW IN GREECE, TO WHICH SENIOR LEVELS OF GREEK GOVERNMENT ATTACH CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE (SEE REF C). IN ADDITION TO COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE OF FAIR, US PARTICIPATION IN TIF (WHICH INCLUDES AN OFFICIAL PAVILION WITH APPROXIMATELY 25 EXHIBITORS) IS POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT THIS YEAR FOLLOWING TRANSITION HERE FROM JUNTA RULE TO DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT. PRESENCE OF CODEL AT FAIR OPENING WOULD PROVIDE A WELCOME SYMBOL TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF GREECE THAT THE US SUPPORTS THEIR ASPIRATIONS - ESPECIALLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE GREEK ECONOMY. EMBASSY AND CONSUL GENERAL THESSALONIKI
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THEREFORE HOPE THAT ALL OR SOME MEMBERS OF CODEL OBEY WILL

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CONSIDER ATTENDIN OPENING AS OFFICIAL USG DELEGATES.

3. FOLLOWING IS OUR SPECIFIC PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD ADD
ONE ADDITIONAL DAY TO CODEL ITINERARY:

AUG 30
AM - FREE IN ATHENS
1400 - DEPARTURE FOR THESSALONIKI VIA
OLYMPIC AIRWAYS FLIGHT NO. 910
0450 - ETA THESSALONIKI
PM - CHECK IN AT HOTEL AND TOUR OF USA
PAVILION AT FAIR.
1900 - OPENING CEREMENY AND SPEECH BY
PM CARAMANLIS.
2130 - RECEPTION ATTENDED BY SENIOR
GOG OFFICIALS.

AUG 31
0825 - DEPARTURE FOR FRANKFURT VIA OLYMPIC
AIRWQYS FLIGHT NO. 175.
0850 - ETA FRANKFURT
1205 - DEPARTURE FOR WASH, DC VIA PANAM FLIGHT
NO. 67
1625 - ETA WASHINGTON.

CONSUL GENERAL BRENNAN IN THESSALONIKI WOULD MEET AND
ACCOMPANY CODEL AT OPENING CEREMENIES.
KUBISCH

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